

SOMERS NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

5/21/2009

Organization Meeting

Welcome!

- Introductions
- How did we get here?
- Goals for tonight's meeting
 - ▣ What is a neighborhood plan and what can it do for you?
 - ▣ Clarify the neighborhood planning process
 - ▣ Provide an opportunity for questions and input on the plan and process
- Some things to remember...
 - ▣ The meeting will last about 2 hours total
 - ▣ PLEASE save all questions until after the presentation – there will be plenty of time to ask!
 - ▣ PLEASE be polite and respectful – remember, this is a public meeting and all questions and comments will be recorded and kept on file.

The Neighborhood Plan

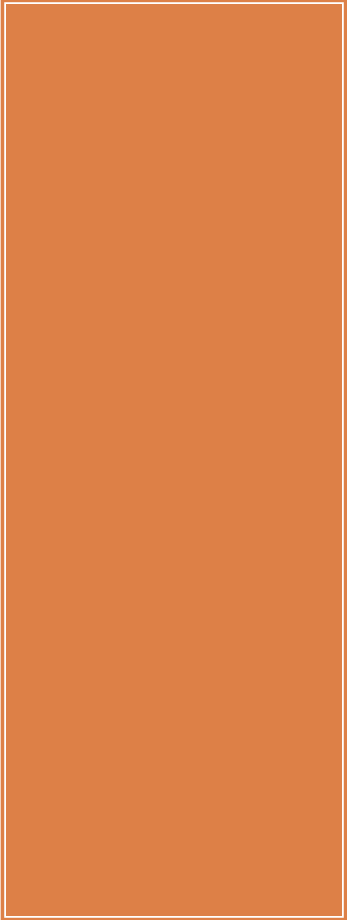
- Authority

- M.C.A.- Neighborhood Plans consistent with the Growth Policy
- Chapter 10, Flathead County Growth Policy
 - New & existing neighborhood plans

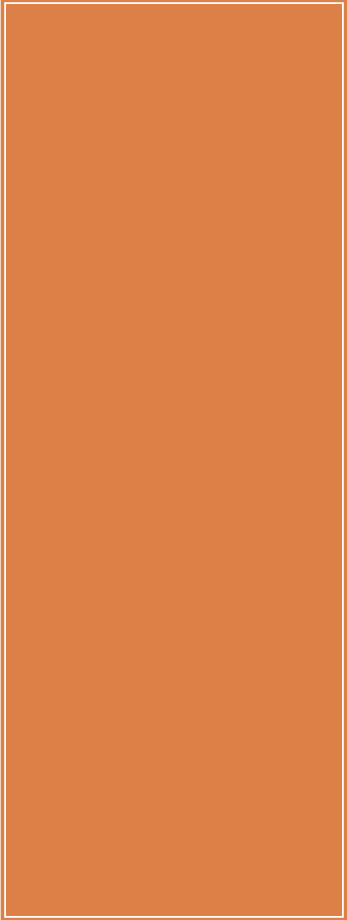
The Plan's Place in Comprehensive Planning



What is a Neighborhood Plan?

- 
- A neighborhood plan is...
 - ▣ Not regulatory
 - ▣ A component of the growth policy
 - ▣ A community's vision on future growth and development

Benefits of a Neighborhood Plan

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- Represents the community vision
 - Prepared by residents
 - More efficient public services
 - Balances property rights
 - Greater development predictability
 - Greater voice in land use decision making

The Neighborhood Plan

- Who should be involved in the planning process?
 - ▣ Everyone who lives in the neighborhood
 - ▣ Public service agencies
- What would be my commitment?
 - ▣ Attend workshops
 - ▣ Become part of the planning team
 - ▣ Review plan drafts and provide comment

Neighborhood Planning Objectives

Transparency

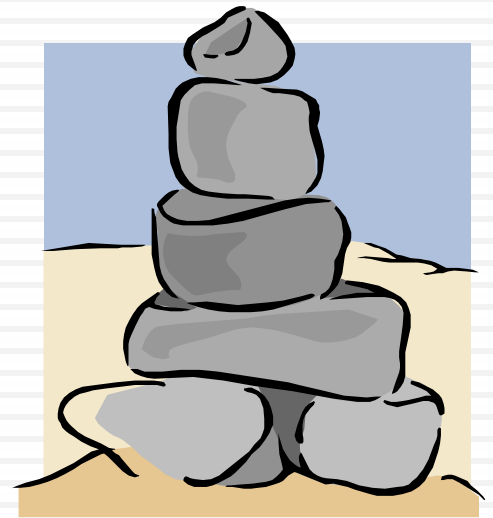
Throughout the neighborhood planning process

Participation

Encourage constant, inclusive public involvement

Representation

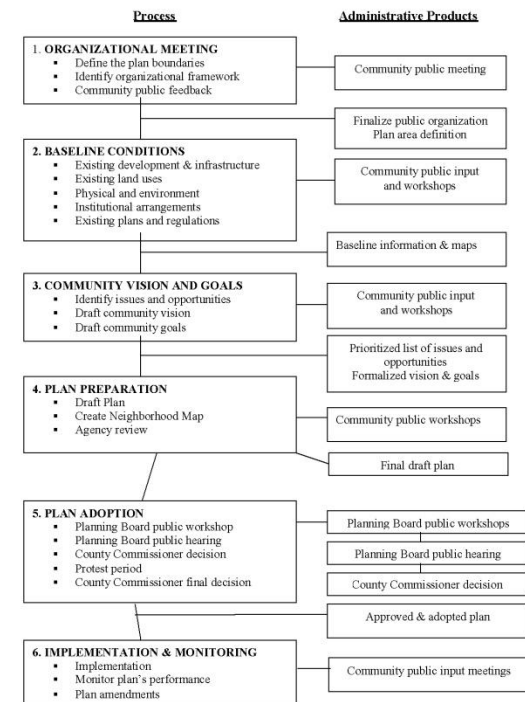
Accurately representing the community's vision & goals



The Planning Process

- Six steps outlined in Chapter 10 of the Flathead County Growth Policy.
- Each step integrates public meetings and community workshops to allow multiple opportunities for **public participation and feedback** along the way.

Figure 10.1
Overview of Neighborhood Planning Process



The Planning Process

Step 1: Organizational Meetings

- ▣ Identify organizational framework
- ▣ Define the plan boundaries
 - 2nd meeting/charrette to collaboratively identify the plan boundary
- ▣ Opportunity for public comments and questions
- ▣ Products/outcome:
 - Community public meeting
 - Finalized public organization
 - Plan area definition

Step 2: Baseline Conditions

- ▣ Existing development and infrastructure
- ▣ Existing land uses
- ▣ Physical and environmental features
- ▣ Institutional arrangements
- ▣ Existing plans and regulations
- ▣ Products/outcome:
 - Community public input and workshops
 - Baseline information and maps

The Planning Process

Step 3: Community Vision & Goals

- ▣ Identify issues and opportunities
- ▣ Draft a community vision
- ▣ Draft community goals
- ▣ Products/outcome:
 - Community public input and workshops
 - Prioritized list of issues and opportunities
 - Formalized vision and goals

Step 4: Plan Preparation

- ▣ Draft plan
- ▣ Create Neighborhood Map
- ▣ Allow time for agency review
- ▣ Products:
 - Community public input and workshops
 - Final draft plan

The Planning Process

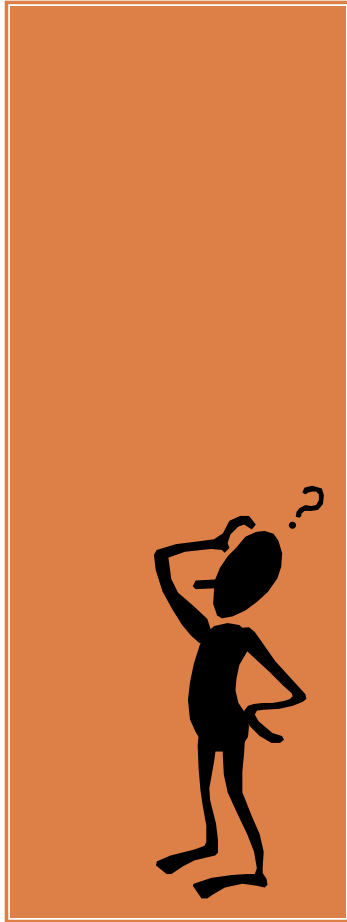
Step 5: Plan Adoption

- ▣ Planning Board public workshop(s)
- ▣ Planning Board public hearing
- ▣ County Commissioner decision
- ▣ 90 day protest period
- ▣ County Commissioner final decision
- ▣ Product/outcome:
 - Approved and adopted plan

Step 6: Implementation & Monitoring

- ▣ Follow implementation strategy
- ▣ Establish a Land Use Advisory Committee
- ▣ Monitor the plan's performance
- ▣ Plan amendments and revisions

Questions?



- Divide into 3 groups:
 - ▣ Questions about neighborhood plans?
 - Andrew Hagemeyer, Planner II
 - ▣ Questions about the neighborhood planning process?
 - Allison Mouch, Planner II
 - ▣ Questions about planning in general?
 - Jeff Harris, Planning Director

Questions?

- Don't have any questions – you're free to go!
- A few housekeeping items before you leave:
 - ▣ Please sign the attendance sheet
 - ▣ Interested in the Neighborhood Planning Committee – sign up!
 - ▣ Postcard collection box and extra blank postcards.
 - ▣ Additional comments – drop in box
 - ▣ Contact cards
 - ▣ Somers area maps – also available at the Planning & Zoning Office and online.

Reminder!

- Next meeting – June 4th, 2009
- 6:30 pm at the Somers Fire Hall
- Outcome will be to collaboratively determine the Somers neighborhood plan boundaries.
- If you won't be able to make it – take home a map!

Thanks for coming!

Contact Information:

Flathead County Planning & Zoning Office
Allison Mouch, Planner II
1035 First Avenue West
Kalispell, MT 59901
(406) 751-8200
amouch@flathead.mt.gov

